

**State County Delegation Meeting Minutes**  
**Monday - October 31, 2005 – 10:30 AM**  
**Place: Newport County Complex, Jury Assembly Room**

**DELEGATION ATTENDEES:**

Rep. John Cloutier  
Rep. Larry Converse  
Rep. Thomas Donovan  
Rep. Brenda Ferland  
Rep. Peter Franklin

Rep. Harry S. Gale, Jr.  
Rep. Charlotte Houde-Quimby  
Rep. Joseph Osgood  
Rep. Beverly Rodeschin  
Rep. Arthur Jillette Jr

**OTHER ATTENDEES:** Commissioners Clarke, Nelson and Jarvis; Ed Gil de Rubio – County Manager; Ray Thivierge – Senior VP of Operations & Network Services/Genesis Healthcare; Courtney Marshall – Nursing Home Administrator; Heidi Smith – Nursing Home Director of Nursing. There were various other employees of the county in attendance, as well as members of the Press and the General Public.

**10:30 AM** Rep. John Cloutier, Delegation Chair, led the meeting.

**Review and Ratify Meeting Minutes:**

- a.) **The minutes of the June 16<sup>th</sup> Public Hearing were approved. 10:32 AM - Converse moved, Ferland 2<sup>nd</sup>, approval by voice vote.**
- b.) **The minutes of the June 28<sup>th</sup> meeting suffered a good deal of discussion as to their accuracy and completeness with a number of corrections offered.**
  - **A motion to table the minutes to a later date failed on a 5-5 vote. 10:40 AM Ferland moved, Converse 2<sup>nd</sup> Yea – Cloutier, Converse, Osgood, Houde-Quimby, Donovan. Nay – Gale, Rodeschin, Franklin, Ferland, Jillette. Following further discussion.**
  - **A motion to accept the minutes failed on a 6-3 vote. 10:50 AM Ferland moved, Converse 2<sup>nd</sup>. Yea – Jillette, Donovan, Cloutier. Nay - Gale, Rodeschin, Franklin, Osgood, Houde-Quimby, Ferland. Further discussion followed.**
  - **At 10:59 AM It was moved by Rodeschin 2<sup>nd</sup> by Gale, to create a sub-committee of four delegates to review the tapes of the meeting and make appropriate corrections to the minutes to bring back to a later session of the Delegation. This motion passed on a 9-1 (Jillette voted Nay) vote. Chair Cloutier appointed Reps. Jillette, Donovan, Rodeschin, and Franklin to this sub-committee.**
- c.) **The Converse moved and Ferland 2<sup>nd</sup> at 11:01 AM that the minutes of the August 11<sup>th</sup> and 25 meetings are approved. They were approved by voice vote.**

**County Manager's Report**

- a.) **Mr. Gil de Rubio discussed attending the NIC Conference where he and the County DOC Superintendent gained a lot of insight on planning new or renovated prison**

facilities. He indicated that we would need to develop a group to look at proposals for a new prison in the near future.

b.) Mr. Gil de Rubio discussed the demolition of buildings. Buildings are being evaluated. The cost of the demolition will be about \$40K. Rep. Converse noted with some irritation that he had not been allowed to read the feasibility study.

c.) The Genesis Report was noted and changes since Genesis took over were discussed. He felt that we have created better systems for the billing process, marketing and recruitment. He feels we must treat the Nursing Home as an enterprise fund. Mr. Thivierge, Genesis Healthcare spoke and indicated that the management report is the result of input from many different consultants. He answered a variety of questions raised by the Delegation members. Rep Donovan praised the quality of care received by his clients at the Nursing Home. He is concerned however, that the Nursing Home has the staffing to provide services to all clients including those with severe health problems. Mr. Thivierge indicated that they are still seeking Medicaid Clients. Heidi Smith, Director of Nursing, said they are still accepting Medicaid clients. They have had to staff differently – increasing the RN staff. With increases in staff, they have also moved to a two-shift plan on weekends.

Mr. Gil de Rubio noted that our current contract with Genesis is coming to an end. He made a very strong recommendation that the succeeding contract be for a minimum of five years.

Rep. Donovan felt that the rhetoric was ill founded. Rep. Franklin noted that these changes were proposed by the previous administration. Mr. Gil de Rubio noted that he felt that the Genesis support would really help us to improve. Comm. Clarke had similar comments. Rep Rodeschin asked if the County Manager was keeping the Commissioner of Health and Human Services fully informed regarding the changes being implemented by the Genesis Contract. Mr. Thivierge indicated that if Genesis could assist in any way they would be most happy to do so. Commissioner Nelson felt that the Audit really helps the county to improve its services.

#### **County Commissioner's Report:**

Commissioner Clarke reported on HB638, which will be heard by the State Legislature this year. He passed out a memorandum (see attached copy, on file in meeting minute binder at Commissioners' Office) that describes this bill. He strongly supports its passage. Rep. Franklin noted that HB 638 would give counties total responsibility for certain programs. Can we, as a county be happy with total responsibility? Comm. Clarke indicated that he feels we need the income from the Bed Tax.

#### **Executive Finance Committee Report:**

Rep. Ferland indicated that the EFC was generally satisfied with the first quarter financial reports and are not suggesting any drastic changes in the report. Rep. Franklin spoke up to indicate that he plans to present a number of concerns about the County financial

reports later on in this session which may extend discussions to a later time period than was planned in the agenda.

**County Forester Report (Inserted out of order with permission of the Chair)**

Seth Wilner made a presentation regarding the County Forester position. When UNH was putting together their budget, they agreed to fund the forester at a \$25K level. They have now agreed to combine the forester and educator position and continue funding a position in the County.

**Presentation By Rep. Franklin:**


Rep. Franklin passed out a 28 page document containing what he feels is back up evidence to support 5 major charges of improper actions by the County Manager, one page of calculations regarding the Pro-Share and MQIP funds and another sheet with his five specific charges (copies attached and on file at the Commissioners Office in Delegation meeting minute binder).

11:41 Gale moved to adjourn Donovan 2<sup>nd</sup>.at that point , which was defeated on a 5-4 voice vote Yea – Gale, Osgood, Donovan, Jillette. NAY – Cloutier, Rodeschin, Houde-Quimby, Franklin, Converse.

Rep. Franklin continued with his presentation and pointed out what he feels were discrepancies in the budget building process. As it came past the noon hour, delegates were anxious to end the session for the day.

**12:10 It was moved and seconded that the meeting be recessed until Monday November 7, 2005, at which time Mr. Franklin's charges and other scheduled business of the Delegation could be conducted. Vote was carried by a voice vote of 8-1, With Mr. Franklin voting in the negative.**

*Respectfully submitted,*

  
Arthur G. Jillette Jr., Clerk  
Sullivan County State Delegation